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## Residents and activists project their demands for social housing outside city hall

Park Extension is considered by many analysts to be one of Montreal's most rapidly gentrifying neighbourhoods. Photo: CAPE

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## Local kids publish a new magazine



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## Bill C-13-What Commissioner of Official Languages of Canada said

*"It is high time  
Canada had an  
Official Languages  
Act that helps both of  
our official languages  
to thrive and that truly defends the  
language rights of all Canadians."*



DIMITRIS ILIAS  
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For many citizens of our borough that transact with the feds the new bill is a very important development. The purpose of the bill is to break the decline of French in Canada and to modernize official language laws. It includes plans for a targeted immigration policy aimed at bringing more francophone immigrants to French-speaking parts of Canada outside Quebec. The bill also intends to protect francophones in English-speaking regions of Canada, as well as for the English-speaking minority in Quebec. The Commissioner of Official Languages Raymond Th  berge issued a statement on March 1st:

"The long-awaited tabling of Bill C-13, An Act to amend the Official Languages Act, to enact the Use of French in Federally Regulated Private Businesses Act and to make related amendments to other Acts, is an essential step in advancing our official languages in Canada. This is a key phase in modernizing the Official Languages Act (the Act) to make it relevant, dynamic and strong. The Act, which has changed enormously since it was first adopted, needs to adapt to and evolve with the demands of Canadian society in the 21st century. I have read the proposed measures and believe that they will breathe new life into efforts to protect and promote both of our official languages and to strengthen linguistic duality in Canada."

In her statement the Commissioner said that he was pleased that the federal government recognized the importance of fostering the full development of official language minority communities, particularly by committing to support key sectors that contribute to this

development, such as culture, education, health and immigration.

Raymond Th  berge also was relieved that several of his recommendations have been retained in the Bill, such as requiring Supreme Court judges to be bilingual, improving access to court decisions and ensuring a regular review of the Act.

According to him, the measures proposed in Bill C-13 to give the Act more teeth, particularly those that strengthen his powers by giving him more tools to help federal institutions improve their compliance with their official language obligations. The government also gives him the power to impose administrative monetary penalties under this new Bill and the new mechanism will help to ensure that organizations serving the travelling public meet their language obligations with respect to communications and services.

"Some language issues would benefit from further discussion, such as governance and horizontal coordination of official languages. I see that the government has taken into account the principles set out in the Federal Court of Appeal's decision in the *F  d  ration des francophones de la Colombie-Britannique* case, in particular by specifying federal institutions' obligation to consult with both official language minority communities and to take their needs into account. However, I will be conducting a more in-depth analysis of the new approach established under Part VII of the Act. Now that the new bill has been tabled, I look forward to continuing to be an active participant in the modernization discussions, including sharing my thoughts with parliamentarians on the new proposed measures in terms of both the Act and the other related legislation covered by Bill C-13," said commissioner of Raymond Th  berge.



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# 700 Jarry West:

*Residents and activists project their demands for social housing outside city hall*



**MATIAS BRUNET-KIRK**  
matias@newsfirst.ca

Several dozen residents and demonstrators gathered last Monday outside Montreal's City Hall to demand the acquisition and construction of social housing units at 700 Jarry West in Park Extension.

Members of the Coopérative Un Monde Uni and Parc-Extension and tenants projected their demands onto the walls of the Lucien-Saulnier building during the City of Montreal's council meeting.

"One year after a luxury apartment project was blocked on the site, tenants of Parc-Extension hoped to highlight the importance of acquiring 700 Jarry West amidst a staggering increase in evictions," said Amy Darwish, coordinator of the Comité d'action de Parc-Extension (CAPE).

Demonstrators demanded that the City of Montreal negotiate with the owner and acquire the lot. This occurred as the City debated the possibility of extending their right of first refusal for affordable housing during the city council meeting.

## Background

700 Jarry West is a focal point in Park Extension with regard to social housing. The lot, housing a small mechanics shop and an abandoned market, was earmarked for a high-end condominium project in 2019.

Many residents and activists collectively protested the project, saying it would further contribute to the areas' gentrification and permanently change the socio-economic makeup of the area.

In 2021, the Villeray—Saint-Michel—Parc-Extension borough council blocked the developers' project, thanks in large part to pressure from residents.

Since then, many in Park Ex have demanded the city use its right of first refusal to buy the lot and building to build social housing units in an area that is rapidly gentrifying.

Rent control and social housing

Given increasing rent prices both in Park Extension and across the island of Montreal, groups like Comité d'action de Parc-Extension (CAPE) have long advocated for better solutions to address the housing crisis.

This includes provincial-level strategies such as comprehensive rent registries and rent control, as well as municipal initiatives to acquire land and build more social housing. So far, the City acquired Plaza Hutchison but has yet to develop it.

"As one of the largest remaining sites for social housing, and the target of neighbourhood mobilizations for nearly a decade, the lot could be the site of a cooperative and community spaces for tenants who are being pushed out of their homes and priced out of the neighbourhood," said Darwish of the lot on Jarry.

According to housing advocacy groups like CAPE, the site on Jarry located between Champagneur and Bloomfield would be ideal for social housing as it is in a central location with access to schools, commerce and public transit.

## Right of first refusal

According to the City of Montreal, the city can use a legal mechanism known as a right of first refusal (Droit de préemption) to block the sale of a lot or building and give purchase priority to the city at the asking price.

"The right of first refusal gives the City of Montreal priority over other potential buyers

to buy certain buildings or land to carry out projects for the benefit of the community," reads the city's definition of the mechanism.

"The City wishes to improve the quality of life of citizens by developing libraries, sports centers or parks, by developing social housing or by protecting our heritage," continued the definition, adding that sellers could not refuse an offer made by the city.

Nonetheless, the right of first refusal cannot be used until the building is listed for sale. So far, 700 Jarry West is still not listed and is therefore not subject to the legal mechanism. Borough officials have cited this as a significant roadblock in developing the project.

Social housing as an essential tool in the housing crisis

Demonstrators last Monday emphasized that only a serious investment in social housing can respond to an escalating housing crisis and meet the needs of low-income tenants.

"More and more tenants are contacting CAPE after receiving an eviction notice sent to everyone living in their building," said Sohnia Karamat Ali, a tenant support worker at CAPE.

"The landlords want to evict their tenants to do major repairs and increase the rent dramatically," she continued, referring to the increasing practice of renovations to expel residents from their rental units.

"If we really want to make sure that affordable and decent units are available for low-income households, we cannot rely on the will of private developers," she added. "Social housing is an essential tool to counter the housing crisis!", Ali added.

*"As one of the largest remaining sites for social housing, and the target of neighbourhood mobilizations for nearly a decade, the lot could be the site of a cooperative and community spaces for tenants who are being pushed out of their homes and priced out of the neighbourhood."*



Members of the Coopérative Un Monde Uni and Parc-Extension and tenants projected their demands onto the walls of the Lucien-Saulnier building during the City of Montreal's council meeting. Photo: CAPE



Demonstrators demanded that the City of Montreal negotiate with the owner to acquire the lot. Photo: CAPE

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# OPINION & Editorial



## WAS THE EMERGENCIES ACT AN ACT IN SEARCH OF AN EMERGENCY?

*Despite its revocation, the damage has been done*

To paraphrase a well-traveled truth that if mistakes of the past are ignored, they return with a wallop far stronger than their original impact, creating precedents that could be abused by future generations.

Prime Minister Trudeau's revocation of the Emergencies Act this past week, before it barely became operative, leaves many questions unanswered. Where is all this heading?

A bit of history, many questions. In Canada, The War Measures Act of 1914, temporarily shifted power from parliament to executive branch of government, giving Prime Minister and Cabinet arbitrary jurisdiction in adopting emergency measures in times of war, invasion, or 'apprehended insurrection'. Understandably, the act was put into force during two world wars, but not so clearly understood is the reason why it was also invoked in the 1970 October Crisis, or more to the point – why it was passed, and then quickly revoked, last week, in response to the freedom convoy that hit Ottawa late January 2022, disrupting the city, according to some, for three weeks.

Potential and actual abuses of emergency powers were exposed in the 1970s, following Pierre Elliott Trudeau's controversial invocation of the act in 1970, a widely-criticized move, prompting comprehensive constitutional revisions that brought all emergency powers within constitutional provisions. When war, rebellions, and threats to peace and order erupt, most constitutional governments suspend usual procedures to deal with regime-threatening conflicts.

This is what Canada would have had to abide for at least a month, before the Prime Minister made an about face. Nonetheless, the situation regarding emergency powers is noteworthy.

Canada has faced substantive threats through most of its history. Nineteenth-Century rebellions were put down by expanding national governments. Twentieth-Century real emergencies were declared in two World Wars. Suspicious invocation of the act in 1970 engendered criticism of the government's use of emergency powers and led to reform efforts - The Constitution Act of 1982. In recent weeks, 'Emergency' – referring to common-sense approaches to crisis resolution - has escalated to heated debate over appropriate use of martial law.

Martial law is regarded as suspect by constitutional scholars who condemn its peacetime use because it rests upon no settled principles, entirely arbitrary in its application. It's not law, indulged rather than allowed, unjustified in peacetime, the illegitimate cousin of military law. A notion of legality inherited by modern-day Canada. However, Canada's martial law is now reduced to matters of executive declaration.

A good look at how the so-called trucker convoy emergency was defined and handled by government/political leaders provokes pertinent questions. The critical question, the answer to which is essential to the preservation

of the rights of all Canadians, is: Did the 2022 Canadian government overreact and then overreach/overact by ramming through the House of Commons the subsequently-suspended Emergencies Act? The proposed legislation became law with the support of only two-of-five sitting political entities in the House – the Liberals and the NDP in a rather tight vote of 185 to 151.

Agreed, on extreme occasions, every prime minister/head of government must be ready to risk going beyond the strict lines of law, when the preservation of public security requires it. As it turns out, Prime Minister Trudeau declared the equivalent of martial law, claiming the presence of a local insurrection. If so, why didn't Federal Public Security Minister Marco Mendicino act earlier, from the start? Why didn't the Prime Minister meet with the convoy leaders, at their request? His response: "Why should I meet with you? You're racist, misogynist, and terrorist. And if that's not enough, he painted all non-vaxxers and protest supporters with the same brush. Why did Trudeau in the House of Commons accuse an opposition Jewish Member of Parliament of supporting terrorists who carried Swastika flags (one flag, to be exact) when she said the Prime Minister was abusing his power

Was the government's handling of the freedom convoy an anachronistic understanding of the Constitution of Canada on the Prime Minister's part? Yes, the Constitution explicitly allows local legislatures to ask federal protection against domestic violence. But when is martial law, or its equivalent, presumably allowed or justified? Unquestionably, to stop armed insurrection too strong for civil authority.

Competent authorities must determine what degree of force the crisis demands and if the government must resort to wartime conditions to maintain itself to overcome unlawful opposition. After much deliberation - was the public safety really at stake during the truckers' demonstration? Was the emergency real? Why did Ottawa Chief of Police Peter Sloly reach a "mutually agreeable separation" with the Ottawa Police Services board amid heavy criticism for not being tough enough with truckers and protesters? Why would Canadians be subjected to privacy invasions legalized by Emergencies Act provisions allowing government to freeze their bank accounts?

It was reported by some non-compliant-to-government media, that the bank account of a Canadian single mom was frozen because she donated \$50 to the truckers through the GoFund campaign, donating when it was still legal. This isolated but potentially widespread act-of-invasion-of-privacy was morally doubtful at best and potentially criminal at worst, neither of which is acceptable in a supposedly free society such as Canada claims to be.

Although The War Measures Act gave sweeping powers to the executive, it stipulated that to

exercise these powers there "shall be conclusive evidence that war, invasion, or insurrection, real or apprehended, exists." The executive was also explicitly given the power to censor media; arrest, detain or exclude persons; control ports and transportation; control commerce; and appropriate, control, forfeit, and dispose of property.

The question now is: Why did the Canadian Civil Liberties Association question Trudeau for what it considered overreach and violation of constitutional rights? Why were some protesters roughed up by police (video evidence)? Why were convoy leaders denied bail after being charged with unsubstantiated crimes? Why does the Canadian population have to rely on non-Mainstream Media outlets to challenge Trudeau's questionable attempts to arbitrarily oppress all Canadians with The Emergencies Act, while most Mainstream Media, sang the same song, uncritically, without any healthy skepticism, continually reflects what appears to be an imbedded approach to reporting on the happenings in the nation's capital? Furthermore, why did the NDP support the Liberals by voting with them to pass the Act, exhibiting no respect for those of the party who have been fighting for human-rights-for-all since the 1930s.

No mainstream media pointed to problems arising from provisions of the Act. Since the defense of liberty and property of individuals rests with the provinces and not with the national government, the key constitutional question raised by many experts is whether the powers seized are within the range of federal power. This may be behind Alberta's intent to challenge the Act if it became operative. Are these extraordinary times which necessitate extraordinary measures? Peaceful, although boisterous, truckers? Extraordinary times? A real head-scratcher!

It's unthinkable that the Emergencies Act could have led to dictatorship and oppression, even in short spurts of time in 2022, yet there's clear evidence that democracy was in temporary perilous suspension under an authoritarian government. Is this what our forefathers fought for and died to avoid?

It's unclear if an emergency actually existed. Was there a real emergency, or was it fabricated by authoritarian forces who wanted to shackle everyone with the yoke of submission-to-authority. "You either do as we tell you, or you will have your rights curtailed. If you don't submit (to vaccines). You will lose your rights."

The one sacred thing in democracy is freedom from government oppression. There is protection under Canadian Constitutional Law that the governing class governs from the consent of the people. The people don't exist because of the government; government exists because of the people. Democracy must prevail.

Renata Isopo  
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# Deconfinement

## A reminder of what's allowed



**DIMITRIS ILIAS**  
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter  
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Deconfinement continues throughout Quebec and for a weary Park-ex population as of the 28<sup>th</sup> of February 2022, the bars, which remained closed until now, have reopened, but the dancing and karaoke singing remain prohibited. There are still restrictions for closing times for bars and that have to close at 1 a.m. Food and beverage service must end at midnight.

Performance halls with 10,000 seats or less opened at 100%, but the 50% rule remains for halls with more than 10,000 seats, such as the Bell Center and the Videotron Center. For Park exers needing the movie fix, movie theaters have also opened 100%, as well casinos. The vaccination passport remains compulsory in restaurants, bars, performance halls and cinemas.

### Workplaces and sports

Work in hybrid mode is slowly getting back into place and wearing a mask is no longer mandatory at work. To the relief of our park-ex youth, sports, competitions and tournaments can resume at municipal and school level. Wearing a mask is required, however for young people aged 13 and over. City Counselor



**#NewsMatters:**  
The National  
Assembly Report  
By Raquel Fletcher

### Controversial amendment to Bill 96 left hanging during break Modification sends shockwaves through college community

As the adage goes, the devil is in the details and Bill 96, the government's proposed French language reform legislation has a lot of details. The National Assembly committee studying the bill is in the clause-by-clause stage, a meticulous and methodic process of analyzing its 201 articles.

It didn't take long for things to get controversial. During its committee work Thursday afternoon, Liberal MNA David Birnbaum called out French Language Minister Simon Jolin-Barrette about an article concerning temporary foreign workers.

"I have to learn how to say, 'red herring' in French because there are 500 kilograms of it in this room," he said.

Under the current law, temporary foreign workers can apply for an exemption to Bill 101 to send their kids to school in English. Bill 96 aims to limit that exemption to three years. Jolin-Barrette said this modification would provide an incentive to workers who suspect they might stay longer or even apply to become permanent residents to send their kids to school in French from the beginning.

The minister argued it would facilitate their integration faster. It also closes a loophole in the law by which immigrants could theoretically use the temporary worker route instead of applying through the regular immigration process to strategically bypass Bill 101. Children who are granted exemptions could potentially gain an acquired right to be able to send their own children and grandchildren to English school.

Birnbaum said framing the issue this way is offensive because it paints immigrants as being antagonistic towards the protection of the French language.

"I have to say, if I was currently a temporary worker and I heard this, I would be pretty insulted by these allusions that suggest I am

Mary Deros has expressed recently her worry about the very tangible psychological effect of the pandemic on the youth of the borough. Allowing sports again will most certainly have a beneficial effect.

### Elders

Seniors residing in CHSLDs and intermediate care homes can gather at a maximum of 10 per table in the dining rooms. The Government of Quebec recommends to limit visits to living environments to a maximum of 10 people.

### Starting March 12th

On Wednesday March 2nd, one hour before going to print, Quebec announced the following to be implemented starting March 12th:

- End of the vaccination passport in the places where it was required
- 100% capacity in all public places;
- No capacity limit per table in restaurants, bars, taverns and casinos;
- Return to normal hours of activity for restaurants, bars, taverns and casinos;
- Dance and karaoke activities allowed;
- No restrictions on the number of participants for activities of a social nature in a rented room;
- Removal from the register of visitors in private seniors' residences.

somehow hostile to French in Quebec or that I'm part of some spontaneous army that has descended on Quebec in order to anglicize this corner of North America," he said in committee.

The red herring, he said, is that the number of people taking advantage of this theoretical loophole is probably marginal, although the minister failed to provide numbers.

"This discussion on temporary stays in Quebec is emblematic of the key issues before us in trying to find positive and inclusive ways to promote the French language," Birnbaum said in a phone interview.

The discussion so far has not been positive, nor inclusive, he said, pointing out that this reform could seriously hurt the Quebec economy.

### Skilled workers may move elsewhere

The Bill 101 exemption for temporary stays encourages highly skilled workers, including academics and scientists to work in Quebec because they know they will be able to send their kids to school in English. In exchange, the province benefits from their expertise. However, without the possibility to renew the exemption, this highly skilled workforce may choose to move elsewhere.

The Liberal Party is proposing an amendment to allow for one renewal, so children of temporary workers could attend English school for a maximum of six years. However, Jolin-Barrette indicated he would not adopt this amendment. The article was included "because there's a hole in the law," he said.

Then switching to English, he asked Birnbaum directly, "There's a breach in the law. You don't want to fix it? You want to let it happen?"

In a cheeky retort, Birnbaum once again asked the minister to quantify the size of this supposed hole. "Is it a pothole or is it the Quebec tunnel?" he asked, referring to the government's controversial third link project for Quebec City.

The committee has been studying this bill for about 60 hours. It is a quarter of the way through the legislation. It has already adopted an article which gives immigrants a six-month window to learn French. After that, the public service must only communicate in French in written correspondence with immigrants.

Debate around even more controversial aspects of Bill 96 is yet to come, including special provisions for the Office québécois de la langue française to conduct searches and seizures.

# What to do before seeking medical attention during the pandemic.



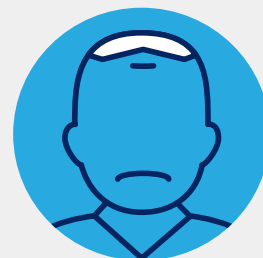
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## *Des enfants du quartier publient un nouveau magazine*



« Nous avons créé et imprimé un cahier d'activités en 2020 pour stimuler les enfants durant l'été et contribuer à lutter contre la "glissade de l'été", un phénomène lié à l'interruption scolaire prolongée qui amène un recul des acquis chez les enfants qui ne lisent pas ou peu durant l'été », a poursuivi le communiqué.

« Afin de continuer à motiver les jeunes à lire,

Le magazine et les textes des enfants sont organisés par thèmes, comme le parc Jarry et la piscine Saint-Roch, et sont accompagnés d'informations complémentaires et de faits amusants.

« Dans le parc Liège, il y a beaucoup de jeux. Il y a un terrain de basketball pour jouer. Il y a beaucoup de personne qui fait des pique-niques. Le parc Liège est très grand, on peut y jouer au soccer et au baseball sur les terrains de jeu. Il y a des arbres et des bancs pour s'asseoir. J'aime jouer au baseball dans le parc. Il y a aussi des jeux d'eau, on peut y jouer l'été », ont écrit Rajbit

*Local kids publish a new magazine that puts Park Ex front and centre*



"This project is very important to us because we believe that it highlights places in Park Extension in a unique way: through the eyes of

the young people who live there, most of whom are immigrants,” continued the statement.

"Our goal was to allow children to read their own texts and those of their peers in an inviting, colourful and fun publication that would make them proud of themselves," added the statement. The magazine and the children's texts are organized by themes, like Jarry Park and Saint-Roch Pool and are accompanied by additional information and fun facts.





**Le magazine intitulé Lire à Parc-Ex met en valeur le quartier de Parc-Extension.**  
**Photo : Bibliothèque de Parc-Express**

Singh, Raghib Hasin et Makirat Singh de l'École Barclay.

« J'aime aller au parc Howard. Je joue beaucoup, j'aime aller jouer à la balle et j'aime glisser et j'aime monter. J'aime le parc Howard », a écrit Hureesa Khan de l'École Barclay.

D'autres sections comprennent aussi les commerces préférés des élèves, notamment le Dollarama, le Brault & Bouthillier et le Cinéma Guzzo. « J'aime le cinéma Guzzo parce que tu peux faire beaucoup d'activité et tu peux voir un film en t'amusant », a déclaré Joséphine Césarina Mbock de l'école Barthelemy-Vimont.

### Un accueil chaleureux

Lors d'un événement virtuel organisé le 23 février, les organisateurs et les enseignants se sont réunis pour lancer la première édition du nouveau magazine. Ils ont félicité les élèves pour leur excellent travail de jeunes journalistes et photographes.

*“This project is very important to us because we believe that it highlights places in Park Extension in a unique way: through the eyes of the young people who live there, most of whom are immigrants,”*

### Young writers front and centre

Although Park Extension is small, there is still so much to see and do in this neighbourhood and what better way to discover it than through the eyes of local kids. In the magazine, the young authors highlight their favourite spots in Park Ex and the reasons why they like them.

“In Liège Park, there are a lot of games. There is a basketball court to play on. There are a lot of people having picnics. Liège Park is very big, you can play soccer and baseball on the playgrounds. There are trees and benches to sit on. I like to play baseball in the park. There are also water games to play in the summer.” wrote Rajbit Singh, Raghib Hasin and Makirat Singh of École Barclay.

“I love going to Howard Park. I play a lot, I like to go and play ball, to slide and climb, I love Howard Park,” wrote Hureesa Khan of École Barclay.

Other sections included students' favourite local businesses, including Dollarama, Brault & Bouthillier and Cinémas Guzzo. “I like the Cinémas Guzzo because you can do a lot of activities and you can see a movie and have

Initially planned to be a digital-only publication, external funding provided by local MNA Andrés Fontecilla allowed the group to print a limited run of physical copies that were distributed to both the children and the schools they attend.

Rose Ngo Ndjel d'Afrique au féminin, Suzette Brutus de CHAIS, Ghislaine Paiement des écoles Barthelemy-Vimont et Barclay ainsi que Mary Deros, conseillère municipale de Parc-Extension étaient toutes présentes au lancement.

« Félicitations, Rose, Suzette et tous les participants pour ce beau travail avec tous les enfants », a déclaré Mary Deros, ajoutant qu'elle souhaitait donner 500 à 600 dollars de ses fonds pour la prochaine édition. « Nous avons toujours soutenu les projets du quartier », a-t-elle ajouté.

fun,” said Josephine Césarina Mbock from Barthelemy-Vimont School

### Warm reception

At a virtual event held on Feb. 23, organizers and teachers gathered to launch the first edition of the new magazine. They congratulated students for their great work as young journalists and photographers.

Initially set to be a digital-only publication, external funding provided by local MNA Andrés Fontecilla allowed the group to print a limited run of physical copies that were distributed to both the children and the schools they attend.

In attendance were Rose Ngo Ndjel of *Afrique au féminin*, Suzette Brutus of CHAIS, Ghislaine Paiement from Barthelemy-Vimont and Barclay schools as well as Park Extension City Councillor Mary Deros.

“Congratulations, Rose, Suzette and all the participants for this beautiful work with all the children,” said Deros, adding that she wanted to donate \$500 to \$600 of her discretionary fund for the next edition. “We have always supported neighbourhood projects,” she added.

# En contexte de pandémie, quoi faire avant de consulter ?



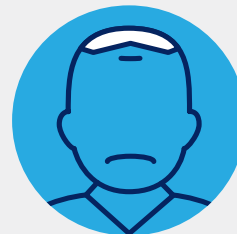
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March 8, 2022

# International Women's Day

## How to celebrate International Women's Day

International Women's Day takes place every year on March 8. On this day, many organizations and companies around the world celebrate the role of women in society. Here are five ways you can mark this special occasion.

### 1. REFLECT ON THE HISTORY OF FEMINISM

Take a moment to remember all the people who fought for societal change and helped advance women's rights throughout history.

The theme chosen for International Women's Day on March 8, 2022, is Gender equality today for a sustainable tomorrow.

### 2. BRAINSTORM WAYS TO TAKE ACTION

Consider ways to help combat feminist issues like violence against women and gender inequality in

the workplace. Ask your friends and family to help you come up with things you can do to make a lasting difference.

### 3. HIGHLIGHT THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF OTHERS

Mark the social, economic, cultural and political achievements of women. Celebrate the important steps that have been taken to create a more fair and just society.

### 4. CHAMPION GENDER EQUALITY

There are many ways you can make a difference for women. You can wear a purple ribbon, participate in feminist rallies or take action to fight for gender equality.

### 5. CHALLENGE DECISION MAKERS

Call on elected officials and other influential people to join the fight for gender equality and take action to advance women's rights.

In addition, you can look for initiatives in your community that promote the role of women in society and contribute to the feminist struggle.



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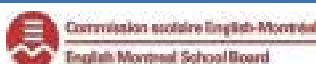
**DE JOUR** lundi au vendredi  
8h30 - 15h35

Registration Dates March 9, 16, 23, 2022

Dates d'inscriptions le 9, 16, 23 mars 2022

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## Why gender equality is important

As of 2014, 143 countries guaranteed equality between men and women in their constitutions. However, legalizing gender equality doesn't necessarily mean that in practice women have the same opportunities as men.

International Women's Day is celebrated on March 8 and is the perfect time to highlight how gender equality benefits everybody.

### MULTIPLE INEQUALITIES

In many places, women have fewer employment opportunities than men and are denied fair access to health care and education. In fact, on average, women still earn 24 per cent less than men.

Every day, nearly 37,000 girls under 18 are forced into marriage, jeopardizing their education. In 2020, 32 million girls were unable to attend primary school.

### SERIOUS CONSEQUENCES

A lack of education means that young women aren't equipped with the skills needed to compete on an equal footing with men. However, giving women greater economic empowerment significantly increases economic growth.

### AN ESSENTIAL BALANCE

Gender equality is a fundamental right. In fact, advancing gender equality



ity is critical to all areas of a healthy society, from reducing poverty to promoting the health, education, protection and well-being of girls and boys.

According to the United Nations, women have a critical role to play in the organization's sustainable development goals. Consequently, women's equality isn't only a goal, it's a solution.

*Find out how you can make a difference by visiting [un.org](http://un.org) or investigating initiatives in your community.*





# #BreakTheBias

## 6 women who made history

Throughout history, countless women authors, scientists, artists, activists and philosophers have accomplished amazing feats and changed the world for the better. To mark International Women's Day on March 8, here's a brief look at six inspiring women.

**1. Rosa Parks (1913 – 2005)** famously refused to give up her bus seat to a white man in Alabama in 1955. This action triggered a major turning point in the fight against racial segregation.



PHOTO: SIPA PRESS/REX FEATURES

**2. Emmeline Pankhurst (1858 – 1928)** was a militant champion of women's suffrage in Britain and had a huge impact on women gaining the right to vote.

**3. Simone de Beauvoir (1908 – 1986)** was a French philosopher and writer. Her work has inspired many feminist movements and continues to empower women from all walks of life.

**4. Simone Veil (1927 – 2017)** was elected as France's Minister of Health in 1974 and fought hard to pass a law permitting voluntary termination of pregnancies.



**5. Wangari Maathai (1940 – 2011)** was a political and environmental activist. She was the first African woman to receive the Nobel Peace Prize for her contributions to democracy, peace and sustainable development.

**6. Malala Yousafzai (1997 – present)** is the youngest Nobel Peace Prize winner in history and has advocated for girls' education in Pakistan since she was 11.

This International Women's Day, take time to learn more about these and other remarkable achievements made by women.



PHOTO: WWW.GLOBALPARTNERSHIP.ORG




Le très hon. / The Rt. Hon.  
**Justin P. J. Trudeau**  
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Un message de votre conseillère  
A message from your city councillor

**Mary Deros**

En ce 8 mars, Journée Internationale des femmes, je profite de cette occasion pour souligner l'inestimable travail accompli par les centres de femmes et ainsi que les organismes qui travaillent afin d'améliorer la qualité de vie de toutes les femmes. Merci de permettre aux femmes de s'accomplir pleinement. Cette occasion me permet aussi de saluer l'implication des citoyennes de l'arrondissement, qui chacune à leur façon, contribuent au rayonnement de leur milieu et de notre communauté.

On March 8, International Women's Day, I take this opportunity to highlight the invaluable work done by women's centers and organizations working to improve the quality of life for all women. Thank you for allowing women to fulfill themselves fully. This opportunity also allows me to salute the involvement of the borough citizens, who each in their own way, contribute to the influence of their community and community.

*Bonne journée de la femme*  
*Happy International Woman's Day*

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# Back-up alarms and city revitalisation



**DIMITRIS ILIAS**  
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter  
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The proximity of our borough to the city center makes it desirable not only to new immigrants but to many others wishing to enjoy a short trip to their workplace. Gentrification whether a citizen of Park-ex sees it as plus or a negative development, is the new reality. And those people that consider the city center as their “playground”, had to deal with the erosion of the city center allure, glamour and attraction. It is interesting to report that the city of Montreal launched the major stages and work sites to renew its downtown strategy. The objective: to adapt to the current context and new trends to revitalize the economic and cultural heart of the metropolis.

## Six projects to revitalize the city center

The city center is a strategic territory that has undergone several transformations, some of which have accelerated with the health crisis: digitization of the economy, climate change, demographic growth, regionalization of certain urban activities, etc. In order to develop a mobilizing strategy that takes current and future changes into account, the City is calling on all socio-economic players in the downtown area to develop a renewed vision and strategic orientations. To this end, 6 major work sites have been identified in the following themes:

- Economic, knowledge and innovation hotspot;
- Diversified and lively living environments;
- User-friendly, inclusive and low-carbon mobility routes;
- A vibrant downtown that stands out for its cultural and creative vitality in all seasons;

A heritage that is both unique and valued;  
An urban form with a distinctive, quality-built environment.  
The city center is a living environment for many clienteles: merchants, workers, students, citizens, visitors, etc. According to the city of Montreal announcement, to remain attractive, it must offer them a wide range of services and high-quality inclusive facilities. This strategy is consistent with the city's various plans, including Montréal 2030 and the Urban Planning and Mobility Plan.

## Those annoying beeps!

It is almost time. With the good weather approaching and deconfinement progressing, our neighborhoods in Park-ex will soon explode with outdoor life. Along with all that comes, of course, construction. Since most crews can start working as of 7am the annoying beep of a backing construction truck has awoken many of us. When backing up, city vehicles will emit, from now on, a noise similar to that of a can being opened. This alarm serves as a warning for pedestrians passing behind a construction truck or heavy vehicle. It helps to limit noise that could disturb the neighborhood.

## Going from “beep-beep” to “pscht-pscht”

Construction vehicles are equipped with a multi-frequency wideband reversing alarm, which replaces the traditional “beep-beep”. Less noisy, this alarm is more stable in contact with surfaces such as asphalt, brick or grass. Sound is directed further to the rear of the vehicle, limiting noise range while improving sound efficiency.

## Gradual changes

The City began changing back-up alarms in 2019. The change of alarm takes place as soon as preventive maintenance on a vehicle is performed. As for new vehicles, the device is installed before delivery.





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## OPPORTUNITIES FOR PARK-EX YOUTH

# Youth Employment and Skills Program positions opening up



### DIMITRIS ILIAS

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter  
For The Parc-Extension News  
dimitri@newsfirst.ca

In an area like Park extension which is considered a passage by many new families of new immigrants, a brand-new program is being launched offering opportunities for our youth to work in the agricultural industry. The agriculture sector continues to face difficulty accessing labour. The YESP seeks to pair farmers with Canadian youth who may be in need of employment.

On the last day of February, the Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food, the Honourable Marie-Claude Bibeau, announced an investment of up to \$3.7 million to enhance the Youth Employment and Skills Program (YESP) and support approximately 300 jobs for youth in the agriculture sector. The YESP aims to support agri-food employers and provide young Canadians between the ages of 15 and 30 with job experience in agriculture that could lead to a career working in the sector.

The YESP will support agriculture employers with the cost of hiring Canadian youth with an additional focus on those who face employment barriers. Eligible applicants include producers, agri-businesses, industry associations, provincial and territorial governments, Indigenous organizations and research facilities. The program is very important for our borough and it offers:

- Employers that hire youth facing specific employment barriers will be eligible for 80 per cent of the cost of salaries and benefits, up to \$14,000.
- Applicants will be eligible for an additional \$5,000 in funding to address the barriers, including relocation.
- Depending on demand, the program will support 50 per cent of salaries and benefits for youth who do not face these barriers, up to \$14,000.

Applications are now open for a limited time. Employers can apply between February 28, 2022 and March 21, 2022 for their project to be considered. Applications forms for the YESP are available through the webpage. Additional information, can be found by contacting [aafc.yesp-pecj.aac@canada.ca](mailto:aafc.yesp-pecj.aac@canada.ca), or calling: 1-866-452-5558.

“Young Canadians deserve opportunities to build their skills and work toward a career that they are truly passionate about. The Youth Employment and Skills Strategy, with its focus on helping young people facing barriers, creates a path to meaningful employment in many in-demand sectors, including the ever-growing agriculture sector. We all succeed when we open doors for young people to build their careers and dreams.” Said Marci Ien, Minister for Women and Gender Equality and Youth

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# Canada emerges from the COVID-19 pandemic

## Labor officials discuss



**DIMITRIS ILIAS**  
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An important meeting for the Park-ex labor force as federal, provincial and territorial labour ministers met virtually on February 25th to share information and advance work on priority issues in workplaces across the country.

The meeting was chaired by the federal Minister of Labour, Seamus O'Regan Jr., and addressed the challenges and opportunities ahead for workers as Canada emerges from the COVID-19 pandemic.

The ministers discussed labour issues related to COVID-19 and the changing nature of work. Ministers shared labour policy successes and lessons learned, with all governments recognizing that workplaces have changed significantly as a result of the pandemic. Other topics of discussion included the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, protections for gig workers and changes to leave provisions.

Paid sick leave was a topic of discussion. A lot of Park extension laborers, just like their

counterparts across the country, saw incomes diminished when infected with the virus even if they did not get sick. Ministers noted the importance of protecting workers and preventing the spread of illness in the workplace, with several ministers sharing updates on changes in their jurisdictions. Discussions regarding paid sick leave across the country are ongoing.

The discussion also included updates on Canada's ratification of the International Labour Organization Violence and Harassment Convention, 2019. In addition, officials shared progress on the implementation of the Pan-Canadian Occupational Health and Safety Reconciliation Agreement, the second agreement of its kind.

Ministers committed to pursuing their collaboration and to working toward the implementation of policies supporting safe and healthy workplaces across the country.

"When workers, employers and governments work together, we create safer and healthier workplaces. The COVID-19 pandemic has exposed gaps in Canada's social safety net, including the lack of paid sick leave across the country. We have an opportunity to close

them if we work together. Today's meeting of labour ministers is yet another example of collaboration leading to improved policies for Canadian workers," said Federal Minister of Labour, Seamus O'Regan Jr.

- The federal, provincial, and territorial ministers responsible for labour meet regularly to discuss issues of mutual concern that they can collaboratively address. Throughout the year, their work is supported by Deputy Ministers through the Canadian Association of Administrators of Labour Legislation.

- In January 2018, the ministers responsible for labour endorsed an agreement in principle that clarified key principles and considerations associated with occupational health and safety harmonization. The National Occupational Health and Safety Reconciliation Agreement was endorsed in January 2019 and was subsequently signed by all jurisdictions.



Photo: courtesy of Wikimedia  
Commons Federal Minister of Labour,  
Seamus O'Regan Jr.

## Inflation is battering the Canadian population

### Park ex residents feeling the effect



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Everything seems to be getting more expensive. Food, gas and housing prices are on the rise while paycheques are slow to keep pace.

Canadians familiar with the way rising prices have reducing their spending power are now facing something worse. Whether it is the pandemic or the war in Ukraine everyday people pay the price and our borough is no different.

"I cannot believe the prices at the supermarkets. It seems that even basic goods are out of my budget" says long time resident Maria to Park Ex news. "How are we supposed to make it with an income that does not adjust to this crazy inflation" she laments.

"The games of the most powerful never affect them. It is only the general population that pays the price. I am supposed to feed my family with these crazy new prices? Look at the gas! Soon we will be paying 2 dollars per liter" said Mohamed who we encountered at the corner of Querbes and Jean Talon

Rising pump prices are now a daily sickening affair. We've grown to expect the effect of shipping delays on food and things with imported components. High housing costs are now just an appalling Canadian fact of life. But toward the end of 2021, that recognizable pattern of rising prices began to change. Until about three months ago, Canadians apportioning their weekly budgets would have noticed most price increases occurring in a few very distinct, relatively volatile, categories, such as food, fuel and accommodation. Not anymore. Inflation has become general

While economists differ on why it is happening and exactly how the change will affect Canadians, most economists agree that the story is no longer about energy, about food, about housing, but about pretty much everything in

the economy. It used to be that Canadians trying to keep within a budget could seek out cheaper goods. They could avoid driving when gas was expensive, for example, or alter their diets to cut back on imported food. But when inflation is general, that becomes harder.

According to some economists, it is a sign that inflation may have set in for the longer term and that it will begin to hurt Canadians more.

Those at the low end of the wage scale — including women, recent immigrants and those in precarious work — are more deeply affected by generalized inflation. A story that rings true even more for Park Extension. People with stagnant incomes and weak bargaining power end up paying higher prices, even for the less expensive goods and services they depend on.

New evidence that "everything inflation" has surged arrived in the same Statistics Canada report that showed prices overall were climbing at 5.1 per cent a year, the highest rate since 1991.

Some economist explain that the rise in underlying inflation, after volatile goods have been removed, has two potential explanations. One is that the rising volatile prices feed back into core, because everything is shipped or needs energy or has imported components.

The other is that as inflation rises, everybody expects it to keep rising, so businesses plan price hikes to keep up with expected inflation and workers try to do the same with their wages.

Others, insist that there is another reason core inflation is rising: too much money flooding into the economy and until it is soaked up with lower government spending and less central bank stimulus, core inflation is not going away.

But if there really is too much money out there, the problem is that not enough of it is going to the people doing the work. If Canadians are falling behind, the reason is not strictly because prices are rising. The problem is that over the past year as inflation surged above five per cent, incomes have failed to keep pace.

## Travel restrictions eased

### Residents of Park

Residents of Park Extension wanting to visit their families or planning vacations abroad will have an easier time from now on as travel restrictions have been eased by the Government of Canada

#### Testing upon arrival in Canada

Travellers arriving in Canada who qualify as fully vaccinated (at least 2 doses) will still be randomly tested on arrival, but those selected for testing will no longer have to quarantine while waiting for their test result. Unvaccinated travellers will still be required to test on arrival and on Day 8 and to quarantine for 14 days.

#### Children under 12

For the children under 12 years old travelling with fully vaccinated adults will no longer need to wait 14 days before attending school, camp, or daycare.

#### Testing before arrival in Canada

To meet pre-entry requirements, travellers will now have the option of using the result of a COVID-19 rapid antigen test taken the day prior to their scheduled flight or arrival at the land border or marine port of entry or a molecular PCR test taken no more than 72 hours before their scheduled flight or arrival



at the land border or marine port of entry. This is a welcome change because PCR test not only take time but in almost all the countries, they are double or sometimes triple the price of an antigen test. In Greece for example an antigen test cost about 20 euros compared to 50 for a PCR.

However, the rapid antigen tests offered by the Government of Quebec in pharmacies, schools, and early childhood education services do not meet the requirements for entry into Canada. The rapid antigen test must be authorized in the country in which the traveller purchased it and must be administered by a laboratory, health agency, or telehealth service.

Finally, the Canadian government will no longer recommend avoiding non-essential travel outside Canada. Travellers are simply encouraged to continue taking the appropriate precautions.

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## New social and affordable housing units

### 9 new units for Park-Ex organisation



**DIMITRIS ILIAS**  
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Ahmed Hussen, Minister of Housing and Diversity and Inclusion, and Andrée Laforest, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, announced that 1,458 social and affordable housing units, divided into 79 projects, will be built by the end of 2022 thanks to nearly \$338 million in funding as part of the second Canada-Quebec agreement under the Rapid Housing Initiative.

In Park extension Afrique au Féminin, is benefitting from 9 new units. Our borough is an area with a great need for affordable housing and the recent announcement from the Federal and Provincial government is an important relief measure.

The units are intended for people with special housing needs, such as women and children who are victims of conjugal or family violence, seniors, Indigenous people, those dealing with mental health issues or substance abuse, people who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless, and people with disabilities.

The two agreements under the *Rapid Housing Initiative* combined represent a total investment of about \$517 million. Since January 2021, close to 3,000 social and affordable housing units have been created according to Quebec's recognized building standards for Quebecers in need.

"Every Quebecer deserves the peace of mind that comes with having a home. The funding announced today will greatly help those who need it most. These projects will quickly provide new housing units to those who are most vulnerable in Quebec. It is through our Rapid Housing Initiative that we are working to ensure that everybody has a safe and affordable place to call home," said Ahmed Hussen, Minister of Housing and Diversity.

"Housing needs are significant in major cities, but also regionally. More than 1,400 new social

and affordable housing units will be built over the coming year. We are therefore continuing to increase the housing supply across Quebec. Also, thanks to our government, eligible renters will only have to pay 25% of their income to live in these housing units. This represents an investment of up to \$128 million. The projects will also allow us to quickly offer a better quality of life to Quebecers in need," added Andrée Laforest, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing.

The second Canada-Quebec agreement under the Rapid Housing Initiative: supports the creation of new permanent affordable housing units; funds the construction of new rental housing, the acquisition of land, and the conversion or rehabilitation of existing buildings to create affordable housing units and is aimed at ensuring that all funds are committed as soon as possible so that units are available within 12 months following the signing of the agreements, unless otherwise agreed.

The Government of Quebec is also committed to funding the rent supplements for certain projects. With this assistance, eligible tenants will pay only 25% of their income for housing.

Afrique au Féminin is a non-profit organization (NPO), founded in 1986 and incorporated in 1988 by a group of professional women of African origin concerned about the difficulties of social and economic integration of women from their communities into mainstream society. After two years of meetings at the Center Afrika, the City of Montreal granted it premises in the Parc-Extension district in 1990. Although initially dedicated to immigrant women of African origin, Afrique au Féminin, given the ethnic diversity of the district, widens its field of intervention and becomes a meeting place for all women of various origins and their families. Thus, although its intervention is specifically oriented towards immigrant women, the center is open to all women, without distinction of age, language, color or religion.



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# Quebec is protecting interns in the workplace



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In an important move to protect interns at the workplace the Minister of Labour Mr. Jean Boulet announced that Bill 14 was passed by the National Assembly. The bill is particularly important to the young workforce of Parc-ex being a borough bordering the largest university of Quebec.

This law represents a step forward in the rights and protections offered to the 195,000 interns who complete an internship in the workplace each year. With the adoption of the law, interns will be able to benefit from short-term leaves or accommodation measures for longer absences. In addition, they will be granted better protections against psychological or sexual harassment as well as recourses adapted to their reality at the Commission for Standards, Equity, Health and Safety at Work (CNESST) and the Administrative Labor Court.

This law places Quebec in the forefront of Canadian jurisdictions in terms of the rights and protections of interns. The CNESST, the Ministry of Education, the Ministry of Higher Education as well as student associations will be called upon to develop tools to publicize the new provisions applicable to interns in Quebec.

"I am delighted to see that our project quickly achieved consensus among players and stakeholders from student associations, education and employment circles, as well as my parliamentary colleagues. Adhering to the bill allows Quebec to grant better protections to interns in the workplace. With this historic advance, we

will promote the success of our interns so that they can integrate the labor market and participate in the economic development of Quebec in healthy environments free from harassment," said minister of labour Jean Boulet.

The law grants interns the right to be absent from their internship for short-term leaves, in particular during public holidays, due to illness, due to family or parental obligations or to care for a loved one, at the death or funeral of a member of their family, on the occasion of a marriage or civil union, for the birth of a child, adoption or termination of pregnancy or for a medical examination related to a pregnancy, whether this examination is performed by a midwife, a doctor or a specialized nurse practitioner.

The law provides that the employer and, as the case may be, the educational institution or the professional order must take the reasonable means at their disposal to ensure that the success of the studies or training of the intern or obtaining a permit to practice a profession is not compromised because of the exercise of a right provided for by law. They must also take the reasonable means at their disposal to accommodate the trainee in the event of a long-term absence for a reason provided for in the Act respecting labor standards.

The intern will be able to benefit from better protection in terms of reprisals, psychological or sexual harassment, as well as recourses adapted to their reality. The law also allows a non-profit organization for the defense of students' rights or an association or a group of student or student associations to lodge a complaint with the CNESST on behalf of an intern.

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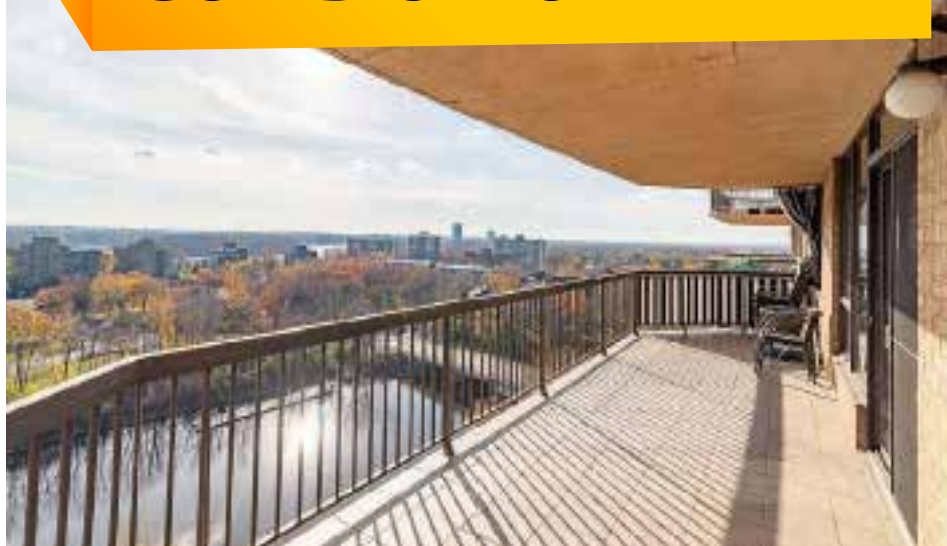
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# Celebrating Black identity in Park Extension

*Brique par Brique  
and Afro X host party  
to kick off Black  
History Month*



**MATIAS BRUNET-KIRK**  
matias@newsfirst.ca

It was all fun, dancing and music at Brique par Brique's newly renovated community space on Beaumont last Friday during their Black History Month celebration.

Afro X, a newly founded Black community association in Park Ex, hosted the party with the collaboration of Brique par Brique.

The event included music by world-renowned artists including musicians Ndaka Yo Wiñi and Ilam, free food provided by Park Extension resident Mahmood Baig and a documentary film screening of *majorMinority* by Khalid S. Z.

### Great evening

"The evening, it was great, it went very well. We're very happy with the way it turned out," said Khalid S. Z., founder of Afro X and director of *majorMinority*.

"There was food for those invited and some great artists who showed up who are quite well-known in Montreal and internationally actually."

"The main thing was to celebrate Black History Month, while at the same time launching and introducing Afro X, which is a black association of Park Ex," added Khalid, noting that it was one of the new branches of the *Brique par Brique* organization.

### Afro X

Founded a few months ago, Afro X prides itself as a Black community association in Park Extension, "with particular attention towards all Afro-descendants from Africans to Haitians to Latin America to the Islands, so basically, it's for everyone that has a link to Africa," said Khalid.

Khalid recognized the exceptional work done by other community groups in Park Extension but wanted to create a new one that was more inclusive and open to all Black and afro-descendant people in the neighbourhood. The organization will work to foster better representation of racialized people both in Park Ex and across the island.

"I just wanted to also create an association that was more generic, more inclusive, that will include everyone," added Khalid. He explained that Afro X could better serve people and create a sense of community among those who do not necessarily speak French or English.

"Africans and Afro-descendants from around the world that are situated in Park Ex, that can speak different languages from Creole to Patois, French, English, Spanish, Portuguese, and many of the endless African languages, just together, we let them know, we are not invisible, we exist as well," he continued.

### MajorMinority documentary

While the evening was marked with dancing and music from the invited artists, a movie screening was also on hand for those in attendance. The premiere of the documentary *MajorMinority* was screened in the back room of the space.



**Brique par Brique and Afro X hosted a party to kick off Black History Month last Friday. Photo: Afro X and Brique par Brique.**



**Ilam, Ndaka Yo Wiñi and Khalid S. Z. last Friday at the celebration. Photo: Afro X and Brique par Brique.**

The new documentary, written and directed by Khalid S. Z. over the past 7 years, tackles themes of visibility and representation among Black people in Canada.

"Especially in countries like Canada, and in a big metropolis like Montreal or Toronto, where we say that it is very multicultural and there is a huge diversity. We know that. But we don't actually see enough representation of people of colour on the ads around the cities," stated Khalid.

### Language and representation

The documentary also looks at the use of language and words in that experience. "We use visible minority, what does it actually mean?"

asked Khalid, "how does it actually affect us? A visible minority, that basically translates into minority which means inferiority, visible minority equals invisible in society," he added. "We have to flip the narrative," remarked Khalid. "The most important thing, I believe, is empowerment and education, to let them know that in Park Ex every single person is a different rich spice and that Canada is actually using this to create this amazing cuisine."

Khalid said educating people and letting them know that their presence and their contributions to society are valued will contribute to their sense of empowerment and better communities overall.

*"I just wanted to also  
create an association  
that was more generic,  
more inclusive that will  
include everyone,"*



# HOROSCOPE

Week of **MARCH 6 TO 12, 2022**

The luckiest signs this week:  
**CANCER, LEO AND VIRGO**



## ARIES

You'll find a solution to all your financial and emotional problems. At work, you'll be promoted and get a raise. This will make you very happy.



## TAURUS

Your life feels a little out of control right now. You'll go shopping for high-end clothes, and if you're a foodie, you'll go out to eat at nice restaurants. You'll take advantage of this time to refresh your wardrobe and give yourself a new look.



## GEMINI

You'll put your fears aside and go for it. You'll feel creative, which will put you on the right track to create a masterpiece.



## CANCER

You're in high demand this week. Your friends and colleagues will want your attention. You'll attract many new clients that want to do business with you.



## LEO

After a long negotiation, you'll finally get the green light from your bank to buy a property or finance a project you've been dreaming about. You must reassess or end some of your friendships.



## VIRGO

You need to recharge your batteries and focus on what's bothering you. Life is beautiful, and you owe it to yourself to reconnect with your inner child.



## LIBRA

Adjusting your goals will allow you to reach your full potential. You'll do everything you can to make your dreams come true. If you're in a relationship, you and your significant other will reconnect on a romantic getaway.



## SCORPIO

You'll entertain the idea of getting married. At work, avoid becoming emotionally involved in negotiations. Doing so could lead to confusion.



## SAGITTARIUS

You'll sign up for a training course that opens new doors; abundance will soon follow. You must work on your relationship by breaking free from your everyday routine. Simply walking hand in hand with your partner could do the trick.



## CAPRICORN

You'll become a hero after saving someone from an unfortunate position, even if you only listened to them for a few moments. At work, you'll lead a team.



## AQUARIUS

You'll hear about a birth in the family. You'll find a home that meets your needs and budget. At work, don't be scared of success. If you're afraid to succeed, change your perspective.



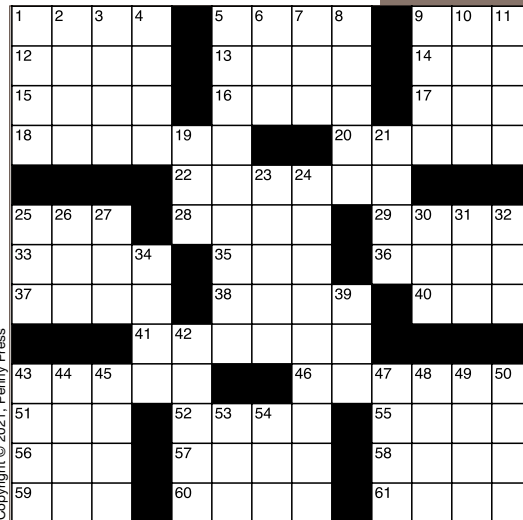
## PISCES

You'll want to purchase a new vehicle. You may have to negotiate with people who don't speak the same language as you. At the very least, you may have to act as an interpreter to decode a hidden message.

# Coffee Break

## CROSSWORDS

PUZZLE NO. 115



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## ACROSS

1. Fine sand
5. Donate
9. Offbeat
12. Smell
13. Generations
14. Very small
15. Be overly fond
16. Clears, as profit
17. Type of wood
18. Proclaim
20. Video's partner
22. Side streets
25. Toward the back, matey
28. Some toothpastes
29. Imprint with acid
33. Depict
35. Wrestler's surface
36. Chance
37. Nitwit
38. Send forth
40. Bodybuilder's place

41. Change the title of
43. Defame in print
46. Hinted
51. Verse poem
52. Work on copy
55. Acclaim
56. Bar order
57. Road marker
58. Applies frosting to
59. Animal's shelter
60. Lean
61. \_\_\_\_ up (make lively)

11. Salesman's model
19. Cloth shred
21. Employed
23. Pack animal
24. Guessed roughly
25. State further
26. To's counterpart
27. Knock
30. Price mark
31. Blubber
32. Sewn edge
34. No longer are
39. Bo Derek's number
42. Vote into office
43. Pack
44. Do nothing
45. Has-\_\_\_\_ (one-time star)
47. Clasp
48. Fancy fabric
49. At any time
50. Student's need
53. John \_\_\_\_ (everyman)
54. Stopover spot

## DOWN

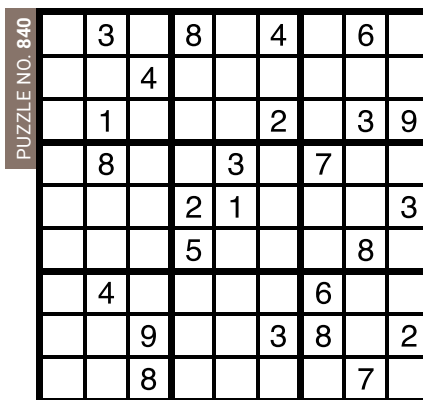
1. Fizzy beverage
2. Wedding vows: 2 wds.
3. House sites
4. Birch or willow
5. Well-mannered guys
6. Ill temper
7. Large tank
8. Short composition
9. Was in debt
10. Salami seller

# Sudoku

## HOW TO PLAY:

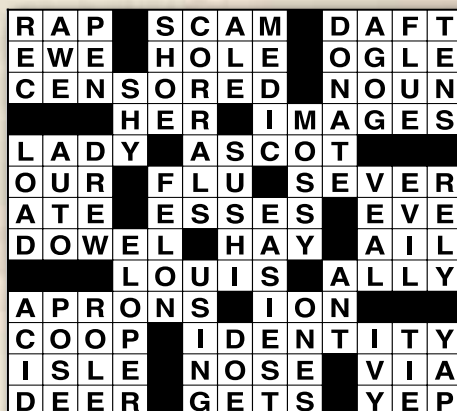
Fill in the grid so that every row, every column, and every 3x3 box contains the numbers 1 through 9 only once.

Each 3x3 box is outlined with a darker line. You already have a few numbers to get you started. Remember: **You must not repeat the numbers 1 through 9 in the same line, column, or 3x3 box.**

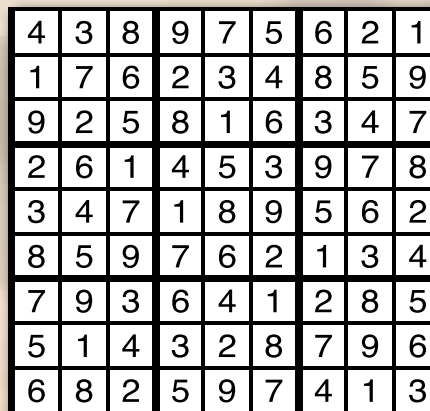


## Last Issues' Answers

## CROSSWORDS



## Sudoku



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